

37: Keiyosei--44
116, 175, 291, 304, 565

(1929-30) 1930

Woleaians
Woleai

Mereyon is the general name of more than 10 islands. We landed on the main island at 8:30 a. m. These islanders are the most primitive people of the Kanakas. They do not wear any clothes except G-strings for men and a sarong woven of banana fibres for women. Among old people, men have tattooing on the stomach and back and women have it on hands and breast districts. This island is a level coral reef. I drank coconut juice now and then. All the men and women like tobacco here.

I saw men sticking combs in their hair. They are so-called free people (high class), and those who do not wear combs are a low class people.

37: Keiyosei--45-46
116, 162

(1929-30) 1930

Woleaians
Woleai

We arrived at Angaur. [46]. On the island there are about 250 Japanese, and 500 native people from different islands. All of them are engaged in the mining.

37: Keiyosei--46

116, 433, 317

(1929-30) 1930

Woleaians

Woleai

The yearly production of phosphate is about 1,200,000-1,000,000 Yen, and the mining expenditure is one half million Yen a year. At the office I saw many samples exhibited there.

The lower half of the page contains several faint, hand-drawn sketches. On the left, there are two vertical, slightly wavy lines. To the right of these, there is a small, roughly circular or oval shape with a horizontal line passing through its center. These sketches appear to be representations of phosphate samples or geological features.

37: Keiyosei--47
116, 133, 228

(1929-30) 1930

Woleaians
Woleai

The Okimoto Pearl Nursery is located between Korrer and the isolated islands. The factory and residences of the supervisors are on Korrer Island. The mother pearl nursery is at the Sedo (sand ground with shallow water) between the two islands. The Sedo is about 100 ken wide [JW: approx. 600 ft.], the water is clear, and water circulation is very good.

According to Mr. Takeshima, the black pearl shell is collected at the same time as the Takase shell, and May is the regular season. It costs 10 sen for each one. Most of the shells are 6-7 inches wide. There are three suspended trays of mother pearls. Each one contains about 2, 072 mother pearls. The ratio of formation of pearls is about 80%, and the regular one is 2.3 bun [JW: .2737 inches] in diameter. According to Mr. Takeshima, it is not profitable economically, but it seems that it is able to maintain a balanced budget. Originally Mr. Kataoka and Mr. Watanabe obtained the permit for this pearl nursery, but finally it came to Mr. Okimoto through a capitalist in Osaka, Japan. There are many young shells near the nursery, but their shells are so thin that they cannot be used for the mother pearls.